



TSIMANAMPETSOTSA NATIONAL PARK

Category: Tsimanampetsotsa National Park, Category II

Manager: Madagascar National Parks (MNP)

Area: 202,525 ha

Geolocation: Province of Toliara; Region of Atsimo Andrefana; Districts of Ampanihy and Betioky Atsimo

International label: Biosphere Reserve, RAMSAR site, Key Biodiversity Area (KBA), Important Bird Area (IBA), Priority Area for Plant Conservation (PAPC)

Start of FAPBM financings: 2007

NAMING

The lake is named after the halophilic swampy vegetation around the site.

The literal translation of its name means «without dolphin» despite the salinity of the lake.

FLAGSHIP SPECIES

The Tsimanampetsotsa National Park consists of a **spiny forest** on the Mahafaly limestone plateau, a salt lake and several caves and avens.

The national park is considered as wetland of international importance, among the migration sites of flamingos and other water birds on the island.

The national park is best known as the home to the **radiated tortoises** (*Astrochelys radiata*).



4

SPECIES OF AMPHIBIANS



10

SPECIES OF BATS

including **1** classified as vulnerable



9

SPECIES OF OTHER MAMMALS



3

SPECIES OF CARNIVORANS

including **1** local endemic species classified as endangered and **1** other species classified as vulnerable, namely the fossa



222

SPECIES OF PLANTS

including : **180** endemic to Madagascar (**81%**): **2** are classified as critically endangered and **2** as endangered ; **5** local endemics (**3%**)



124

SPECIES OF BIRDS

of which **2** are classified as endangered (including the Madagascar grebe) and **4** vulnerable



8

SPECIES OF LEMURS

including **1** classified as critically endangered (namely the sifaka) and **2** endangered (including the Maki)



53

SPECIES OF REPTILES

including **2** local endemics, of which **1** is classified as endangered; **2** species of turtles are critically endangered and **4** other reptile species are vulnerable



PROTECTED AREA SPECIFICITIES

LANDSCAPES AND HABITATS



Salt lake, dry spiny thicket, dry littoral spiny thicket (low xerophilic thicket), dry deciduous forest, riparian forest, marshes, degraded xerophilic thicket, secondary thickets, caves and avens connected by a network of underground rivers.

PRESSURES AND THREATS



Exploitation of radiated tortoises for local consumption and illegal traffic, selective logging of forest trees for timber, bush fires, land clearing, etc.



ECONOMIC VALUE

It is a **tourist site for nature discovery and especially for the culture of the region (Mahafaly)**. However, the number of visitors is not yet important to date.



LOCAL COMMUNITIES' INITIATIVES

As with all protected areas managed by MNP, the management of Tsimanampetsotsa National Park is **collaborative co-management** with the participation of local community members in conservation and development activities. They are brought together in **CLPs (Local Park Committees)** and **COSAPs (Protected Areas Steering and Support Committees)**.



FAPBM'S EFFORTS AND RESULTS

The FAPBM's support for the Tsimanampetsotsa National Park began **in 2007** with the establishment of the German Government's Sinking Fund.

Poaching of tortoises and lemurs, as well as fires are the main pressures on the park.

The conservation status of the National Park's conservation targets is not strongly impacted by these pressures. Nevertheless, it could be weakened with the increase in the number of fire points in the region these past few years.



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Created in 2005, the **Foundation for the Protected Areas and Biodiversity of Madagascar (FAPBM)** is a Malagasy trust fund dedicated to the conservation of Madagascar's biodiversity. It is an innovative and sustainable financing mechanism for Madagascar's Protected Areas System (SAPM).